

Message Text

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PAGE 01 ADDIS 02018 041513Z
ACTION AF-08

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15
USIA-06 MCT-01 DHA-02 IO-13 EA-07 A-01 OPR-02
SY-05 OC-06 CCO-00 EB-08 COME-00 PC-01 AID-05
/105 W

-----041935Z 052872 /42

R 041452Z APR 77
FM AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3375
INFO AMCONSUL ASMARA
USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GER

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PINS, PGOV, ET
SUBJ: KEBELE LEADERS PUBLICLY EXECUTED

REF: A. ADDIS ABABA 1847, B. ADDIS ABABA 1875 AND PREVIOUS

1. APR 3 ETHIOPIAN HERALD REPORTED PUBLIC EXECUTION OF URBAN DWELLERS' ASSOCIATION (KEBELE) CHAIRMAN AND HIS FIVE ACCOMPLICES. AFTER KEBELE HAD TAKEN "REVOLUTIONARY MEASURES" AGAINST BERHANENA SELAM PRINTING PRESS WORKERS EVENING MAR 23 (REFTEL A), AND HAD "EXPOSED" WORKERS AT MINISTRY OF EDUCATION FOLLOWING DAY, PUBLIC OUTCRY APPEARS TO HAVE PRODDED PMAC TO TAKE STRONG ACTIONS AGAINST KEBELE RESPONSIBLE FOR KILLING PRINTING PRESS WORKERS. PMAC ANNOUNCED IN MAJOR STATEMENT KEBELE 07 CHAIRMAN AND HIS ACCOMPLICES FOUND GUILTY BY SPECIAL GENERAL COURTS-MARTIAL FOR INHUMAN MURDERS OF 24 PERSONS AND BEATING OF SIX OTHERS. CRIMINALS SUBSEQUENTLY EXECUTED IN PUBLIC, MORNING APR 2.

2. ATO GIRMAN KEBEDE, KEBELE 07 CHAIRMAN, ALLEGEDLY GRADUATE OF ADDIS ABABA UNIVERSITY REPORTEDLY HAD BEGUN TO TAKE LAW INTO
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OWN HANDS. GIRMA AND FIVE OTHERS HAD BEEN ARRESTED BY PMAC EIGHT DAYS BEFORE EXECUTION AND REPORTEDLY INVESTIGATED THOROUGHLY. PMAC STATEMENT QUOTED CHAIRMAN MAO'S EXPLANATION FOR DEATH SENTENCE OF SOME COUNTER-REVOLUTIONARIES IN CHINA: "IF WE HAD NOT DONE SO, THE MASSES WOULD NOT HAVE BEEN ABLE TO LIFT THEIR HEADS." PMAC STATEMENT NOTED GIRMA SON OF KEGNAZMATCH KEBEDE YIMER, WHOSE INTERESTS ADVERSELY AFFECTED BY REVOLUTION. GIRMA'S

ACCOMPLICES "EXPOSED" IN SIMILAR MANNER.

3. COMMENT: PUBLIC INDIGNATION ABOUT EXCESSES OF SOME KEBELES
IN GENERAL AND KEBELE 07 IN PARTICULAR, APPEARS TO HAVE FOUND
SYMPATHETIC EAR WITHIN PMAC. SINCE PMAC ANNOUNCED "ADJUST-
MENTS" IN HOUSE-TO-HOUSE SEARCH CAMPAIGN AND EXECUTION OF KEBELE 07
LEADERS, LEVEL OF GUNFIRE HEARD IN ADDIS DURING NIGHT HAS
DIMINISHED TO ALMOST NIL AND EXISTENCE OF IMPROMPTU KEBLE
ROADBLOCKS HAS SIMILARLY DECREASED.
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PRESS COMMENTS, EXECUTIONS, ALLEGATIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 04-Apr-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977ADDIS02018
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
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Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770116-1217
Format: TEL
From: ADDIS ABABA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
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Litigation History:
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Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
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Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 77 ADDIS ABABA 1847, 77 ADDIS ABABA 1875
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SAS ID: 2913209
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: KEBELE LEADERS PUBLICLY EXECUTED
TAGS: PINS, PGOV, ET, (KEBEDE, ATO GIRMAN)
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/be4801ab-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
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